

## *Ficus dalhousiae*, Kallaal

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## Taxonomy

Kingdom	Phylum	Class	Order	Family
Plantae	Tracheophyta	Magnoliopsida	Rosales	Moraceae

**Scientific Name:** *Ficus dalhousiae* (Miq.) Miq.

### Synonym(s):

- *Covellia costata* Miq.
- *Ficus costigera* Miq.

### Common Name(s):

- Malayalam: Kallaal

### Taxonomic Source(s):

Missouri Botanical Garden. 2021. Tropicos.org. Available at: <http://www.tropicos.org/>.

## Assessment Information

**Red List Category & Criteria:** Vulnerable B2ab(iii) [ver 3.1](#)

**Year Published:** 2023

**Date Assessed:** April 11, 2022

### Justification:

*Ficus dalhousiae* is a small tree up to 10 m height, sometimes epiphytic and mainly occurs in evergreen forest and also in dry forest with ample canopy coverage. This species is endemic to the hills of South India and the majority of records are from the southern Western Ghats. The species is reported from 10 locations, of which nine are preserved specimens. The present extent of occurrence (EOO) is 59,852 km<sup>2</sup> and the area of occupancy (AOO) is 40 km<sup>2</sup>. A critical review indicates that the species is reported to be declining in abundance and the habitats have been subjected to continuous decline due to agricultural and developmental projects. Hence, the species is assessed here as Vulnerable (VU).

## Geographic Range

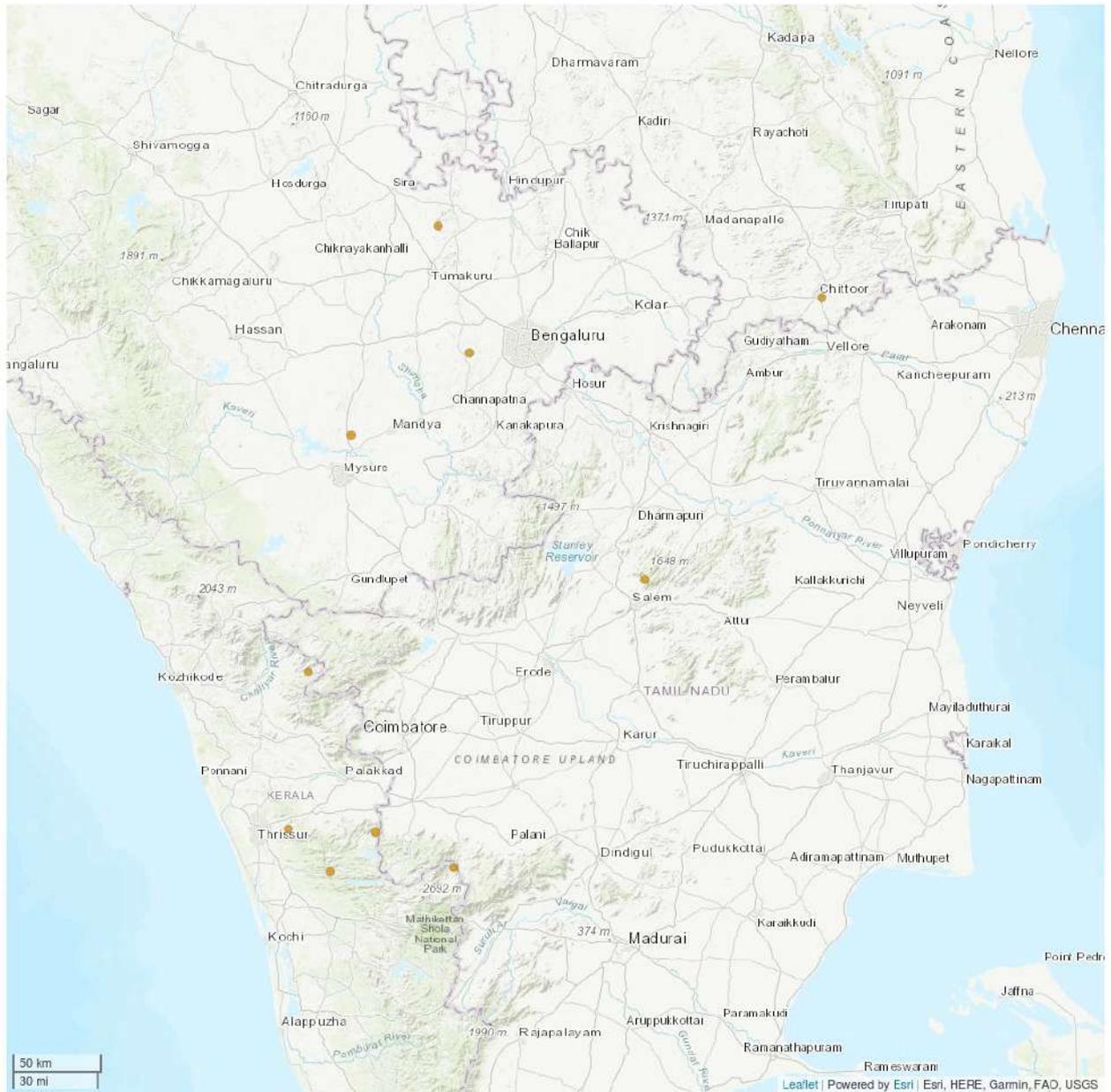
### Range Description:

This species is distributed in forested hills of South India with an altitude of 140–1,300 m.

### Country Occurrence:

**Native, Extant (resident):** India

# Distribution Map



## Legend

■ EXTANT (RESIDENT)

## Compiled by:

GTA 2022



The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply any official endorsement, acceptance or opinion by IUCN.

## Population

*Ficus dalhousiae* is an endemic tree species of South India reported from 10 locations and no population records are available.

**Current Population Trend:** Unknown

## Habitat and Ecology (see Appendix for additional information)

*Ficus dalhousiae* is a small evergreen tree up to 10 m high, sometimes epiphytic, seen on the wet hills in moist and dry forest regions. Chiefly located in southern Western Ghats and other isolated hills in South India at an altitude between 140–1,300 m. Flowering and fruiting were observed during December to March.

**Systems:** Terrestrial

## Use and Trade

This species has been reported to have been cut down to feed captive elephants in the forest during forestry operations. The fruits of this species are reported to be used for medicinal purposes by the local community. There is no other use and trade information.

## Threats (see Appendix for additional information)

There has been the practice of logging fig trees for feeding captive elephants during forest timber operations. Five out of the ten locations are outside the protected area and were subjected to massive degradation of primary forest for industrial and timber agro-plantations, dams and reservoirs and also for other infrastructural projects.

## Conservation Actions (see Appendix for additional information)

The species is reported from ten locations in different forested hills of South India, the majority from the southern Western Ghats in which five locations are outside protected areas.

## Credits

**Assessor(s):** Amitha Bachan, K.H. & Devika, M.A.

**Reviewer(s):** Hills, R.

## Bibliography

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Chaudhary, L.B., Sudhakar, J.V., Kumar, A., Bajpai, O., Tiwari, R. and Murthy, G.V.S. 2012. Synopsis of the Genus *Ficus* L. (Moraceae) in India. *Taiwania* 57(2): 193-216.

IUCN. 2001. *IUCN Red List Categories and Criteria: Version 3.1*. Species Survival Commission. IUCN, Gland, Switzerland and Cambridge, UK.

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Nair, S.S. and Amitha Bachan, K.H. (eds). 2020. A Preliminary Assessment on the Diversity of the Genus *Ficus* L. (Moraceae) in Kerala. *Current Status and Challenges for Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity*, pp. 235-242. SN College Kollam.

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## External Resources

For [Supplementary Material](#), and for [Images and External Links to Additional Information](#), please see the Red List website.

## Appendix

### Habitats

(<http://www.iucnredlist.org/technical-documents/classification-schemes>)

Habitat	Season	Suitability	Major Importance?
1. Forest -> 1.6. Forest - Subtropical/Tropical Moist Lowland	Resident	Suitable	-

### Plant and Fungal growth forms

(<http://www.iucnredlist.org/technical-documents/classification-schemes>)

Plant and Fungal growth forms
TS. Tree - small

### Use and Trade

(<http://www.iucnredlist.org/technical-documents/classification-schemes>)

End Use	Local	National	International
2. Food - animal	Yes	No	No
3. Medicine - human & veterinary	Yes	No	No

### Threats

(<http://www.iucnredlist.org/technical-documents/classification-schemes>)

Threat	Timing	Scope	Severity
2. Agriculture & aquaculture -> 2.2. Wood & pulp plantations -> 2.2.2. Agro-industry plantations	Ongoing	Minority (<50%)	Rapid declines
5. Biological resource use -> 5.3. Logging & wood harvesting -> 5.3.2. Intentional use: (large scale) [harvest]	Past, unlikely to return	Unknown	Unknown
	Stresses:	2. Species Stresses -> 2.1. Species mortality 2. Species Stresses -> 2.2. Species disturbance	
7. Natural system modifications -> 7.2. Dams & water management/use -> 7.2.10. Large dams	Past, unlikely to return	Minority (<50%)	Rapid declines

### Conservation Actions in Place

(<http://www.iucnredlist.org/technical-documents/classification-schemes>)

Conservation Action in Place
In-place land/water protection

### Conservation Action in Place

Occurs in at least one protected area: Yes

## Conservation Actions Needed

(<http://www.iucnredlist.org/technical-documents/classification-schemes>)

Conservation Action Needed	Notes
1. Land/water protection -> 1.2. Resource & habitat protection	-
3. Species management -> 3.2. Species recovery	-

## Research Needed

(<http://www.iucnredlist.org/technical-documents/classification-schemes>)

Research Needed	Notes
1. Research -> 1.2. Population size, distribution & trends	-
1. Research -> 1.3. Life history & ecology	-
3. Monitoring -> 3.1. Population trends	-

## Additional Data Fields

Distribution
Estimated area of occupancy (AOO) (km <sup>2</sup> ): 40
Estimated extent of occurrence (EOO) (km <sup>2</sup> ): 59852
Number of Locations: 10
Lower elevation limit (m): 140
Upper elevation limit (m): 1,300
Habitats and Ecology
Continuing decline in area, extent and/or quality of habitat: Yes
Generation Length (years): 50

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